General, Archaeological Survey of India which was attended by the officials from the Delhi Wakf Board on the subject of declaring Jama Masjid as a monument of national importance. The consensus in the meeting was to continue the present system wherein Archaeological Survey of India would undertake conservation works of Jama Masjid in view of its historical and archaeological importance but without taking it over as a protected monument under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.

The Delhi High Court in their interim order dated 26.5.2005 came to the finding that the notification issued by the Government of India dated April 16,1970 shows Jama Masjid built by Mughal Emperor, Shahjahan as one of the Wakf properties. It was further directed that if any repairs have to be carried out by the Archaeological Survey of India, the same shall be done in consultation with the Wakf Board in view of the aforesaid position.

The hon'ble High Court of Delhi has further directed in their interim order dated 14.7.2005 that the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and Delhi Wakf Board with the assistance from the Police should remove the unauthorized structures from and around the Wakf land. The Survey Commissioner (Wakf) should carry out survey and identify unauthorized structures inside and outside the monument on Wakf land. On the subject of conservation and repairs of the Jama Masjid, it has been directed by the Hon'ble Court that small repairs of urgent nature should be carried out by the Archaeological Survey of India and a report should be filed by the next date of hearing which is on 3rd August, 2005. For the long-term repairs, the Archaeological Survey of India should do the necessary exercise and inform the cost involved to the Delhi Wakf Board. Further, the matter is subjudice in the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.

Ram Niwas Mirdha Committee recommendations

647. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ram Niwas Mirdha Committee had submitted its findings in 1984;

(b) if so, whether this expert committee had recommended that ASI should have at least 9000 monument attendants to cover all the monuments and wanted it to have a security force of its own;

(c) if so, the reasons for not taking so far any action on the above recommendations;

(d) whether Government are now considering to implement its recommendations;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) if so, how many of its recommendations have been fully considered; and

(g) by when these are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Archaeological Survey of India had sent a proposal for creation of 5000 posts of Monument Attendants in the year 1998 to the Planning Commission, but Planning Commission did not agree to the proposal and suggested the following options:—

(i) Engagement of private agencies.

(ii) Involvement of local bodies like municipalities, corporation and the panchayati raj institutions.

(iii) Engaging the community and the connected families.

As per recommendations of Planning Commission, Archaeological Survey of India has supplemented the security services by entrusting the security of Taj Mahal and Red Fort to C.I.S.F. and by deploying Private Security Personnel, State Police and Home Guards in selected monuments and museums.

(d) to (g) The Committee made 81 recommendations, many of which have been implemented. The status of implementation is being compiled and will be placed later.